

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 688 - HB 944

February 26, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Removes the separate fees charged by circuit court clerks, criminal court clerks, clerks and masters of chancery courts, clerks of courts of general sessions, county clerks, clerks of juvenile and probate courts, and clerks of law and equity courts in Knox County and makes the fee schedule that applies in all other counties also applicable in Knox County.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Revenue – \$192,500/FY21-22 and Subsequent Years/Knox County

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-21-401, 94 of the counties follow a strict schedule for fees charged by circuit court clerks, criminal court clerks, clerks and masters of chancery courts, clerks of courts of general sessions, county clerks, clerks of juvenile and probate courts, and clerks of law and equity courts
- Knox County is exempt from this fee schedule and is instead mandated to follow the schedule pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-21-409, in which the particular fee charges for each service vary above and below that of the other 94 counties.
- Per the U.S. Census Bureau, Knox County had a population of 470,313, as of July 2019. The closest county in terms of population is Hamilton County with 367,804. Knox County is therefore, 27.87 percent larger than Hamilton County.
- In FY19-20, Knox County collected \$2,190,263 in fee revenue; Hamilton County collected \$1,863,450. Accounting for the population difference, were Hamilton County the same as Knox County, it hypothetically would have collected \$2,382,794 (\$1,863,450 x 127.87%).
- As a result of this legislation, it can be assumed that Knox County will see a mandatory increase in local revenue of \$192,531 (\$2,382,794 - \$2,190,263) in FY21-22 and subsequent years.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

/jg